The Aluminum Situation

A Monthly Publication of
The Aluminum Association, Inc., 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006

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October 1983

Shipments Up 11.2 Per Cent

Net shipments of aluminum ingot and mill products in 8 months of 1983, at an estimated 9,000 million pounds were 11.2% higher than shipments of 8,094 million pounds for 8 months of 1982.

Domestic shipments totalled 8,223 million pounds for 8 months of 1983, representing an increase of 13.2% from the 7,266 million pounds shipped in 8 months of 1982.

Exports of 777 million pounds were down 6.2% vs. 828 millions pounds for 8 months of 1982.

Thru August 1983

	8 Mos. 1983	8 Mos. 1982	% Change
Mill Products	7,380	6,461	+14.2
Ingot	1,620	1,633	− 0.8
Total	9,000	8,094	+11.2
Less Exports	(777)	(828)	− 6.2
Domestic Total	8,223	7,266	+13.2

Millions of Pounds

Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association. Previous data—Bureau of the Census.

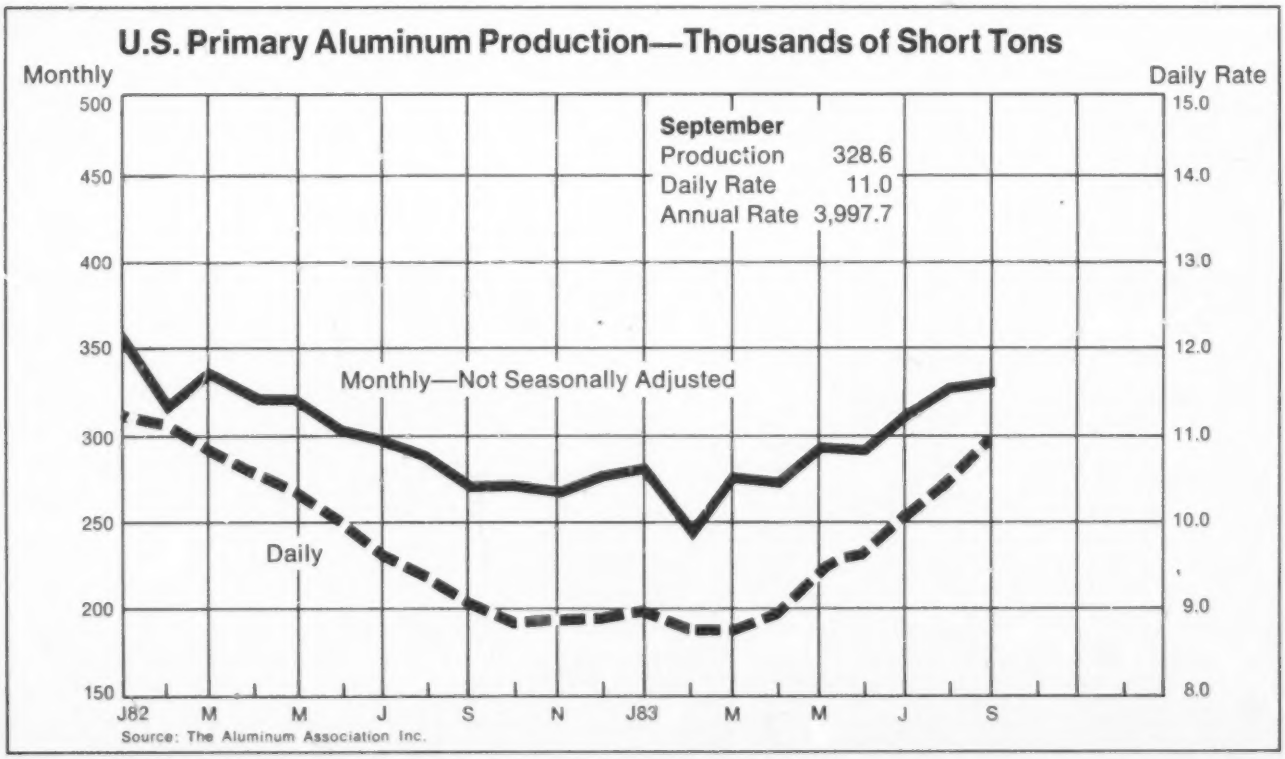
Primary Production Rate Up 21.2 Per Cent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 10,953 short tons daily during September 1983 compared with an average 9,038 tons a day in September 1982, representing a 21.2% increase.

The annual rate of production in September 1983 was 3,997,729 tons, compared to 3,298,955 tons in September 1982. The August 1983 production rate was 3,850,762 tons.

Actual production in September 1983 was 328,581 tons.

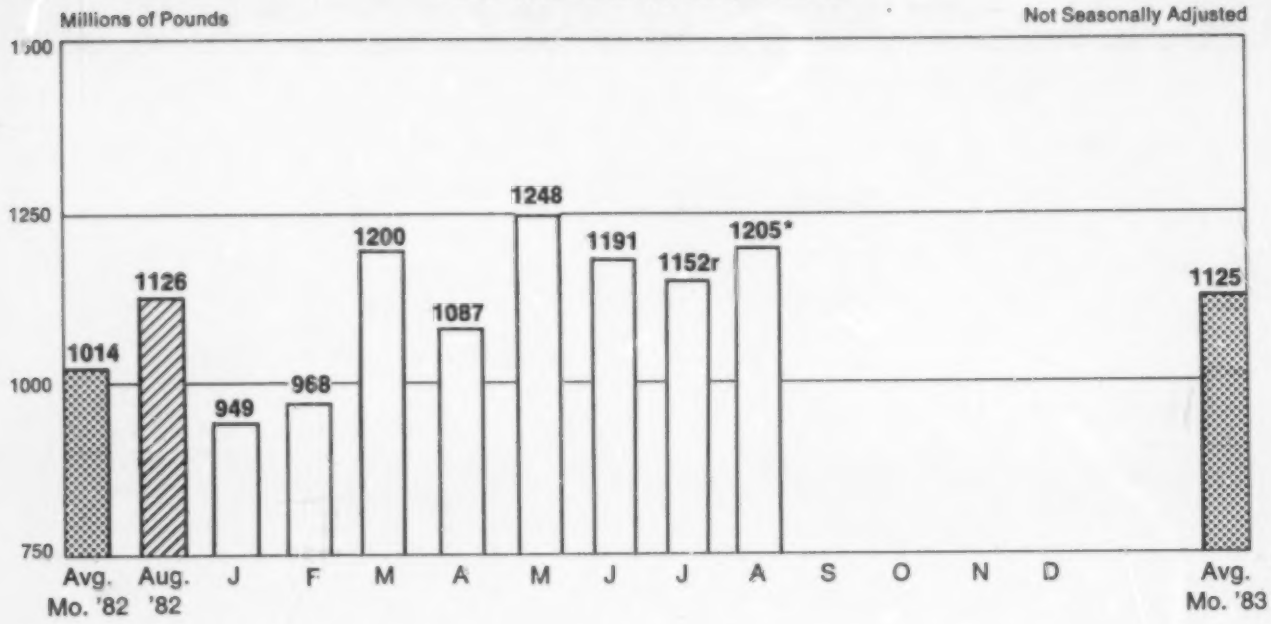
U.S. Primary Aluminum Production—Thousands of Short Tons



Source: The Aluminum Association Inc.

Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

Total Aluminum Shipments



Net Shipments
(Millions of Pounds)

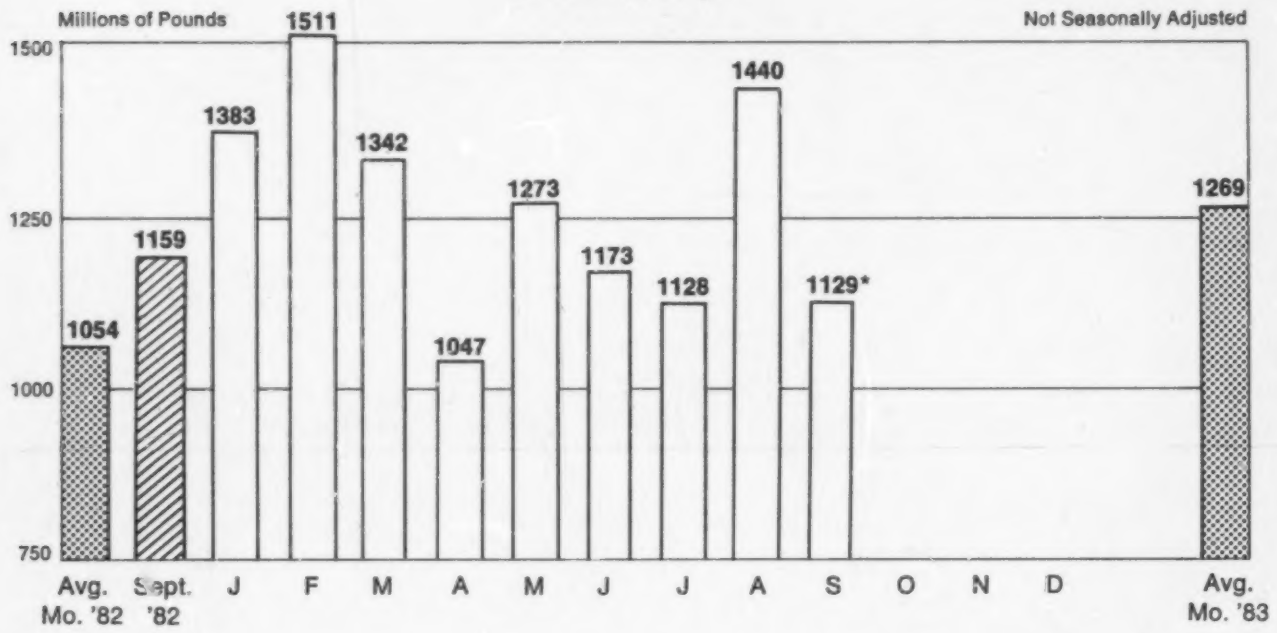
	1983 August*	1983 July*	1982 August	% Change Latest Month 1983 v. 1982
Sheet & Plate	526.0	577.0	462.0	+13.9
Foil	63.0	57.0	59.4	+10.6
Rod, Bar & Wire	18.0	17.0	21.0	−14.3
Electrical Conductor	56.0	55.0	48.7	+11.5
Extruded Products	200.0	183.0	168.1	+19.0
Welded Tube	4.0	5.0	4.2	− 4.8
Powder & Pigments	7.0	6.0	7.4	− 5.4
Forgings & Impacts	9.0	7.0	7.3	+23.3
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	42.0	46.0r	33.3	+26.1
Total Mill Products	925.0	952.0r	811.4	+14.0
Ingot	280.0(b)	200.0(b)	315.0	−11.1
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,205.0	1,152.0r	1,126.4	+ 7.0
Exports	(108.1)	(112.9)	(119.6)	− 9.6
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,096.9	1,039.1r	1,006.8	+ 8.9

* Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data—Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.
r-revised

August 1983 Net Shipments Up 7.0 Per Cent vs. August 1982

Total August 1983 net shipments of 1,205 million pounds were up an estimated 7.0% above August 1982 shipments of 1,126 million pounds. Domestic shipments were up 8.9%.

Order Receipts



Order Receipts
(Millions of Pounds)

	1983 September*	1983 August	1982 September	% Change Latest Month 1983 vs. 1982
Can Stock (a)	200.0	369.0	186.7	+ 7.1
Sheet & Plate, Other	324.0	389.1	210.6	+53.8
Foil	71.3	69.8r	56.7	+25.7
Rod, Bar & Wire	16.2	17.2	13.1	+23.7
Electrical Conductor	55.7	95.7	32.0	+74.1
Extruded Products	228.8	214.3	132.5	+72.7
Powder & Paste	10.0	9.3	8.7	+14.9
Forgings & Impacts	6.3	8.1	7.7	−18.2
Domestic Mill Products	912.3	1,172.5r	648.0	+40.8
Ingot (Total)	126.8	177.8	304.4	−58.3
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,039.1	1,350.3r	952.4	+ 9.1
Exports	89.9	89.8	207.0	−56.6
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,129.0	1,440.1r	1,159.4	− 2.6

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.
(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.
* Latest month.
r-revised.

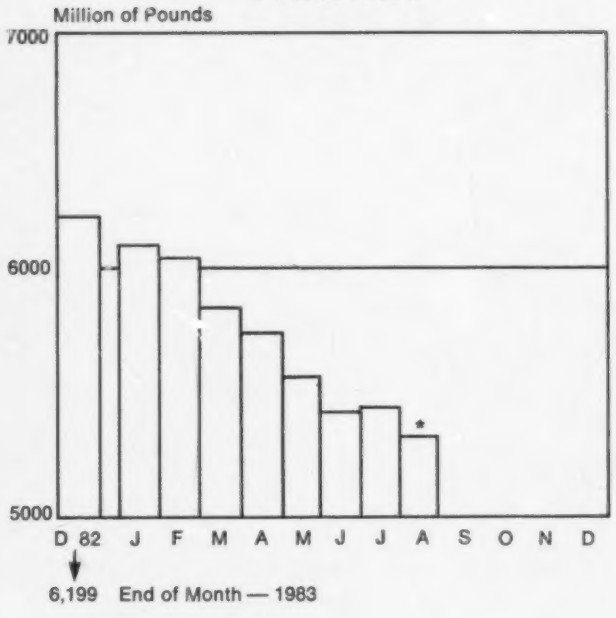
September 1983 Orders 2.6 Per Cent Below Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for September 1983 of 1,129 million pounds were 2.6% less than the 1,159 million pounds for September 1982. Domestic orders were up 9.1%, and domestic mill product orders showed a 40.8% increase over a year ago.

Producers Stocks Down 113 Million Pounds

Producer inventories decreased an estimated 113 million pounds in August 1983 from an estimated 5,445 million pounds in July to an estimated 5,332 million pounds. Integrated producers were estimated to have accounted for most of the change.

Inventories



6,199 End of Month — 1983

J	6,159	J	5,445r
F	6,093	A	5,332
M	5,842	S	
A	5,744	O	
M	5,579	N	
J	5,426	D	

Producers Inventories
(Millions of Pounds)

Producers	Aug. '83	July '83	Aug. '83 vs. Year End '82
Integrateds	4,332	4,450r	−892
Smelters	200	200	− 16
Nonintegrated	800	795	+ 41
TOTAL	5,332	5,445r	−867

* Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data—Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap. r-revised.

Imports and Exports
(Millions of Pounds)

		1983 August	1983 July	1982 August	% Change Latest Month 1983 v. 1982
Imports	Mill Products	48.9	50.0	38.1	+28.3
	Ingot	144.6	158.6	156.3	− 7.5
	TOTAL	193.5	209.6	194.4	− 0.5
	Scrap (+ dross)	18.5	15.5	11.9	+55.5
Exports	Mill Products	34.9	31.2	34.4	+ 1.5
	Ingot	73.2	81.7	85.2	−14.1
	TOTAL	108.1	112.9	119.6	− 9.6
	Scrap	59.1	52.1	33.2	+78.0
Net Imports		+44.8	+60.1	+53.5	−16.3

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.

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